GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2559
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2017
Female Foeticide
Simha Shri Prathap;Udasi Shri Shivkumar Chanabasappa

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of female foeticide have increased in the country during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government has worked out any multi-pronged strategy entailing schemes and awareness generation/ advocacy measures to build a positive environment for the girl child through gender sensitive policies, provisions and legislation; and

(c) if so, the details with result thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)
(a): As per the information received from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), NCRB has started collecting data on female foeticides since 2014 and as reported by NCRB, a total of 50 foeticides were reported in 2014 and 45 foeticides were reported in 2015 in the country, showing a decrease of 10% in female foeticides during 2015 over 2014. State/UT-wise such data is enclosed as Annexure-I.
Some of the reasons for female foeticide are son preference and the belief that it is only the son who can perform the last rites, that lineage and inheritance runs through the male line, sons will look after parents in old age, men are the bread winners etc. Exorbitant dowry demand is another reason for female foeticide/infanticide. Small family norm coupled with easy availability of sex determination tests may be a catalyst in the declining child sex ratio, further facilitated by easy availability of Pre-conception and pre-natal sex selection facilities.
(b) & (c): The Government has enacted the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, for prohibition of sex selection before or after conception and for prevention of misuse of pre-conception and pre-natal diagnostic techniques for sex determination.
Contdâ€¦â€¦.

The Government of India besides enactment of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, has adopted a multi-pronged strategy entailing schemes and programmes for awareness generation and advocacy measures to build a positive environment for the girl child through gender sensitive policies, provisions and legislation. The details of important measures taken by Government of India are at Annexure − II.
As per the quarterly progress report (QPR) received from States/ UTs, a total of 56079 facilities have been registered under the Act. A total of 2316 court cases have been filed by the District Appropriate Authorities for violating the provisions of the PC&PNDT Act, out of which 294 cases have been filed against unregistered diagnostic centres and 1683 machines have been sealed/seized. A total of 388 convictions have been secured under PC&PNDT Act, 1994. Following the convictions, the medical licenses of 108 doctors have been suspended by the various State Medical Councils. Further, all these have been secured through strong implementation of the Act/Rules.
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